



Red River Authority of Texas

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February 5, 2020
NOTICE OF DRINKING WATER NITRATE VIOLATION
RRA - Hinds Water System, ID No. 2440005
Fourth Quarter 2019

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the Authority's Hinds Water System that the water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for NITRATE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for NITRATE at 10 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in the Hinds Water System for NITRATE from EP001 indicates a level of **19 mg/L**.

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT BOILING YOUR WATER WILL NOT REMOVE NITRATE. EXCESSIVE BOILING WILL ACTUALLY INCREASE ITS CONCENTRATION.

The Authority will provide bottled water for use by expectant mothers and infants less than 6 months of age. Unless you are an expectant mother or have an infant under the age of 6 months, you do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

The Authority has proposed purchasing treated water from the City of Vernon and the construction of approximately 22,000 linear feet of 6" water transmission line to terminate into the existing Hinds Station Ground Storage Tank, replacing the entire existing water source. The total estimated cost for this project is \$1.25 million dollars. However, the bottled water reimbursement program will remain in effect until the nitrates in the drinking water of the Hinds Water System are reduced to below 10 mg/L.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For further information, please contact myself at (940) 723-8697. You may also contact your District Manager, Mr. Terry Dyer, at (940) 636-8037. For more information on the bottled water program, please contact the main office.

Sincerely,

RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald A. Mullins".

Ronald A. Mullins
Utility Supervisor

RAM:slf